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NEWS

NMTBA
The Association For Manufacturing Technology

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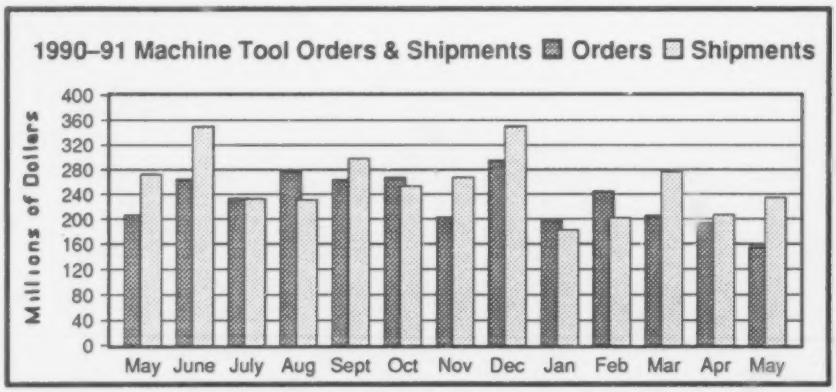
May machine tool shipments up, orders down

May machine tool shipments rose to $235.00 million, up 13.5% from April's $207.05 million, according to figures released today by NMTBA – The Association For Manufacturing Technology. Year–to–date shipments stood at $1,103.60 million, down 16.0% compared to 1990. Comparing May 1991 to May a year ago, shipments were down 13.9%.

May machine tool orders totaled $155.80 million, down 19.6% from April's $193.70 million. The year–to–date order total for 1991 is $999.95 million, down 13.6% compared to last year. May 1991 orders were 24.5% below the total for May 1990.



"Although the timing and the strength of the economic recovery are not yet clear, we are encouraged by recent data from the Federal Reserve showing two consecutive months of increases in the output of our nation's factories and in capacity utilization," said NMTBA President Albert W. Moore. "Conventional wisdom in our industry is that machine tool orders escalate when capacity utilization crosses the 80% level. U.S. manufacturers also have tighter control over their inventories now than in most downturns. With lean inventories, production will respond quickly to higher demand, in turn creating a demand for the machine tools which will be needed to meet new production levels."

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Moore added, "In the global marketplace, we continue to do well, with year–to–date export orders running 10% above last year. This is an indication of the competitiveness of our products."

Metal Cutting

May metal cutting orders stood at $111.85 million, down 18.0% compared to April. Year–to–date metal cutting orders were down 10.2% compared to 1990. Comparing May 1991 to the same month a year ago, orders were down 18.8%.

May metal cutting shipments reached $176.05 million, up 21.1% for the month. Year–to–date shipments were down 18.7% compared to the same period in 1990. Comparing May 1991 to May 1990, metal cutting shipments were down 9.3%.

Metal Forming

May orders for metal forming equipment stood at $43.95 million, down 23.2% compared to April. Year–to–date 1991 metal forming orders were down 21.1% compared to the same period last year. May 1991 orders were 36.0% lower than orders for the same month in 1990.

At $58.95 million, metal forming shipments in May were down 4.5% compared to April. Year–to–date metal forming shipments were off 10.1%. Comparing May 1991 to May 1990, shipments were down 25.2%.

Backlog

The machine tool order backlog for May 1991 was $1,364.75 million, down from April's $1,443.95 million. The May 1990 backlog was $1,646.70 million.

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COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
MAY 1991	98.70	13.15	111.85	35.75	8.20	43.95	134.45	21.35	155.80
APR 1991	109.95	26.50	136.45	37.30	19.95	57.25	147.25	46.45	193.70
% CHANGE									
MAY 1991:APR 1991	-10.2	-50.4	-18.0	-4.2	-58.9	-23.2	-8.7	-54.0	-19.6
MAY 1990	116.80	21.00	137.80	64.50	4.15	68.65	181.30	25.15	206.45
% CHANGE									
MAY 1991:MAY 1990	-15.5	-37.4	-18.8	-44.6	+97.6	-36.0	-25.8	-15.1	-24.5
YEAR TO DATE 1991	556.85	161.30	718.15	215.60	66.20	281.80	772.45	227.50	999.95
YEAR TO DATE 1990	655.00	145.10	800.10	296.90	60.40	357.30	951.90	205.50	1,157.40
% CHANGE									
1991 : 1990	-15.0	+11.2	-10.2	-27.4	+9.6	-21.1	-18.9	+10.7	-13.6

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
MAY 1991	159.25	16.80	176.05	45.55	13.40	58.95	204.80	30.20	235.00
APR 1991	126.55	18.80	145.35	47.05	14.65	61.70	173.60	33.45	207.05
% CHANGE									
MAY 1991:APR 1991	+25.8	-10.6	+21.1	-3.2	-8.5	-4.5	+18.0	-9.7	+13.5
MAY 1990	172.30	21.85	194.15	71.00	7.80	78.80	243.30	29.65	272.95
% CHANGE									
MAY 1991:MAY 1990	-7.6	-23.1	-9.3	-35.8	+71.8	-25.2	-15.8	+1.9	-13.9
YEAR TO DATE 1991	637.25	101.95	739.20	298.45	65.95	364.40	935.70	167.90	1,103.60
YEAR TO DATE 1990	780.75	128.20	908.95	359.50	45.85	405.35	1,140.25	174.05	1,314.30
% CHANGE									
1991 : 1990	-18.4	-20.5	-18.7	-17.0	+43.8	-10.1	-17.9	-3.5	-16.0

Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1990	$2,532.50	$ 432.20	$2,964.70	$1,468.40	$2,855.55	$ 444.35	$3,299.90
1991							
JAN	$ 167.00	$ 32.85	$ 199.85	$1,485.70	$ 154.25	$ 28.30	$ 182.55
FEB	$ 165.10	$ 80.05	$ 245.15	$1,528.70	$ 168.25	$ 33.90	$ 202.15
MAR	$ 158.65	$ 46.80	$ 205.45	$1,457.30	$ 234.80	$ 42.05	$ 276.85
APR	$ 147.25	$ 46.45	$ 193.70	$1,443.95	$ 173.60	$ 33.45	$ 207.05
MAY (P)	$ 134.45	$ 21.35	$ 155.80	$1,364.75	$ 204.80	$ 30.20	$ 235.00
5 MONTHS	$ 772.45	$ 227.50	$ 999.95		$ 935.70	$ 167.90	$1,103.60

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1990	$2,641.25	$ 459.85	$3,101.10	$ 108.75	$ 27.65	$ 136.40
1991						
JAN	$ 176.75	$ 40.00	$ 216.75	$ 9.75	$ 7.15	$ 16.90
FEB	$ 175.15	$ 81.10	$ 256.25	$ 10.05	$ 1.05	$ 11.10
MAR	$ 169.60	$ 48.10	$ 217.70	$ 10.95	$ 1.30	$ 12.25
APR	$ 153.55	$ 48.10	$ 201.65	$ 6.30	$ 1.65	$ 7.95
MAY (P)	$ 143.55	$ 21.45	$ 165.00	$ 9.10	$ .10	$ 9.20
5 MONTHS	$ 818.60	$ 238.75	$1,057.35	$ 46.15	$ 11.25	$ 57.40

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS

New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog

(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1990	$1,771.95	$ 298.35	$2,070.30	$1,164.00	$2,004.45	$ 325.15	$2,329.60
1991							
JAN	$ 107.20	$ 22.85	$ 130.05	$1,183.25	$ 93.25	$ 17.55	$ 110.80
FEB	$ 113.80	$ 72.45	$ 186.25	$1,236.35	$ 109.45	$ 23.70	$ 133.15
MAR	$ 127.20	$ 26.35	$ 153.55	$1,216.05	$ 148.75	$ 25.10	$ 173.85
APR	$ 109.95	$ 26.50	$ 136.45	$1,207.15	$ 126.55	$ 18.80	$ 145.35
MAY (P)	$ 98.70	$ 13.15	$ 111.85	$1,142.95	$ 159.25	$ 16.80	$ 176.05
5 MONTHS	$ 556.85	$ 161.30	$ 718.15		$ 637.25	$ 101.95	$ 739.20

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1990	$1,867.25	$ 318.45	$2,185.70	$ 95.30	$ 20.10	$ 115.40
1991						
JAN	$ 115.90	$ 29.95	$ 145.85	$ 8.70	$ 7.10	$ 15.80
FEB	$ 123.40	$ 73.45	$ 196.85	$ 9.60	$ 1.00	$ 10.60
MAR	$ 137.05	$ 27.55	$ 164.60	$ 9.85	$ 1.20	$ 11.05
APR	$ 114.10	$ 28.10	$ 142.20	$ 4.15	$ 1.60	$ 5.75
MAY (P)	$ 106.60	$ 13.20	$ 119.80	$ 7.90	$ .05	$ 7.95
5 MONTHS	$ 597.05	$ 172.25	$ 769.30	$ 40.20	$ 10.95	$ 51.15

P - Preliminary

Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1990	$ 760.55	$ 133.85	$ 894.40	$ 304.40	$ 851.10	$ 119.20	$ 970.30
1991							
JAN	$ 59.80	$ 10.00	$ 69.80	$ 302.45	$ 61.00	$ 10.75	$ 71.75
FEB	$ 51.30	$ 7.60	$ 58.90	$ 292.35	$ 58.80	$ 10.20	$ 69.00
MAR	$ 31.45	$ 20.45	$ 51.90	$ 241.25	$ 86.05	$ 16.95	$ 103.00
APR	$ 37.30	$ 19.95	$ 57.25	$ 236.80	$ 47.05	$ 14.65	$ 61.70
MAY (P)	$ 35.75	$ 8.20	$ 43.95	$ 221.80	$ 45.55	$ 13.40	$ 58.95
5 MONTHS	$ 215.60	$ 66.20	$ 281.80		$ 298.45	$ 65.95	$ 364.40

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1990	$ 774.00	$ 141.40	$ 915.40	$ 13.45	$ 7.55	$ 21.00
1991						
JAN	$ 60.85	$ 10.05	$ 70.90	$ 1.05	$ .05	$ 1.10
FEB	$ 51.75	$ 7.65	$ 59.40	$ .45	$ .05	$ .50
MAR	$ 32.55	$ 20.55	$ 53.10	$ 1.10	$ .10	$ 1.20
APR	$ 39.45	$ 20.00	$ 59.45	$ 2.15	$ .05	$ 2.20
MAY (P)	$ 36.95	$ 8.25	$ 45.20	$ 1.20	$ .05	$ 1.25
5 MONTHS	$ 221.55	$ 66.50	$ 288.05	$ 5.95	$ .30	$ 6.25

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology